

IN THE CLAIMS

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1. (currently amended) A system for updating ~~the time and date~~ a time and a date of all of the one of a plurality of electronic devices within the system, the system ~~comprising~~ comprising a communications network being coupled to each of said electronic devices within said ~~network~~; ~~and at least two electronic devices~~ network, wherein ~~each electronic device has~~ each of at least two of said electronic devices has a time and date set feature capable of being set by a ~~user~~ user, wherein any one of said at least two electronic devices is configured to communicate ~~a time~~ the time and date set ~~function~~ feature to any respective electronic device after having received a set instruction ~~until all devices within said communications network have been set~~ configured to automatically set a clock within any one of said at least two electronic devices, wherein said clock is automatically set when a change in time occurs, and any one of said at least two electronic devices is configured to communicate the time and date set feature until remaining of said electronic devices within the communications network have been set.

2. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said communications network comprises a communications module which ~~utilized~~ utilizes standard communications protocol to communicate time and date set data between said electronic devices within said communications network.

3. (original) The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said communications network comprises a Programmable Logic Controller.

4. (original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said time and date set feature is a time code.

5. (original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said time and date feature is a date code.

6. (currently amended) A process for updating ~~the time~~ a time code and ~~date code~~ a date code of ~~the devices~~ one of a plurality of electronic devices within a communications network, wherein each device comprises a microprocessor, a

communications module, memory, and a key pad, the process comprising the following steps:

reading the time code from the memory;

sending the time code to the communications ~~controller;~~module;

reading the date code from the memory;

sending the date code to the communications ~~controller;~~ and module;

the communications controller sending time and date information from the communications module to all of the electronic devices within the ~~network;~~network;
and

notifying the communications module of at least one of the time and date code before at least one of the time and date code is transmitted to the communications module.

7. (currently amended) The process as recited in claim 6, further comprising the step of reading ~~the time~~time and date information from the memory upon execution of a clock setting ~~routine;~~routine.

8. (currently amended) The process as recited in claim 6, further comprising the step of reading time and date information from the memory after a clock set keypad entry function has been initiated.

9. (currently amended) The process as recited in claim 6, further comprising the step of reading time and date information from the memory after the communications module transmits an interrupt signal to the microprocessor.

10. (original) The process as recited in claim 7, wherein said time and date information is a time code.

11. (original) The process as recited in claim 7, wherein said time and date information is a date code.

12. (currently amended) An apparatus for updating ~~the time code~~ a time variable of all of the one of a plurality of appliances within a communications network having a communications controller, wherein the time variable comprises a time code and a date code, the apparatus comprising:

means for reading the time variable;

means for sending the time code to the communications module;

means for sending the date code to the communications ~~module;~~ and module;

means for ~~the communications module~~ sending the time variable from the communications module to the devices/appliances on the network; and

means for notifying the communications module of at least one of the time and date code before at least one of the time and date code is transmitted to the communications module.

13. (currently amended) A system for updating ~~the time and date~~ a time and a date of ~~all of the one of a plurality of appliances~~ within the system, the system comprising:

a communications network being coupled to each of said appliances within said network; and

wherein each of at least two of said appliances ~~each has~~ has a time and date set feature capable of being set by a user;

wherein any one of said at least two appliances is configured to communicate a time and date set function to all respective appliances within the network after having received a set ~~instruction~~ instruction configured to automatically set a clock within any one of said at least two appliances, wherein said clock is automatically set when a change in time occurs.

14. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 13, wherein said communications network comprises a communications module which ~~utilized~~ utilizes

standard communications protocol to communicate time and date set data between said appliances within said communications network.

15. (original) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein said communications network comprises at least two Programmable Logic Controllers.

16. (original) The system as recited in claim 13, wherein said time and date set feature is a time code.

17. (original) The system as recited in claim 13, wherein said time and date feature is a date code.

18. (currently amended) ~~A process~~ A system for updating ~~the time~~ a time code and ~~date code~~ a date code of ~~the appliance~~ an appliance within a communications network, network comprising a plurality of appliances, wherein each appliance comprises a microprocessor, a communications module, memory, and a key pad, the ~~process comprising the following steps:~~ system comprising:

means for reading the time code from the memory;

means for sending the time code to the communications module;

means for reading the date code from the memory;

means for sending the date code to the communications ~~module;~~ and module;

means for the communications module sending time and date information to the appliances with the ~~network~~ network; and

means for notifying the communications module of at least one of the time and date code before at least one of the time and date code is transmitted to the communications module.

19. (currently amended) The ~~process~~ system as recited in claim 18, further comprising means for reading the time and date information from the memory upon execution of a clock setting routine.

By 20. (currently amended) The ~~process~~system as recited in claim 18, further comprising means for reading time and date information from the memory after a clock set keypad entry function has been initiated.

21. (new) The system as recited in claim 1 wherein said change in time comprises a change from a standard to a daylight savings time.

22. (new) The system as recited in claim 1 wherein said clock is automatically set when a brown-out condition occurs.